

## LITERARY NOTES.

There has been a notable reduction in the price of the first editions of Dickens's works, the demand having brought into market in England a large number of copies.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have added to their list of authors' portraits one in life size of Nathaniel Hawthorne. It is enlarged from an English photograph and represents the author as he appeared in the vigor and grace of his happiest and strongest days. His daughter, Mrs. Lathrop, says: "It is this aspect which, when it recurred later in life, always seemed to me to be his most individual expression."

A young gentleman bearing the name of "Maloney" has been amusing himself by publishing as his own, though under a slightly different title, Irving's "Legend of Sleepy Hollow." This kind of literary conveyance is not so novel as to be remarkable; but what is strange, indeed, is the absent-mindedness of the Editor of *The Niagara Falls Gazette*, the paper in which Mr. Maloney's "Legend of the North Woods" appeared.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have published a little pamphlet by W. G. Cannon, entitled "Studies in Longfellow." These studies furnish outlines of reading and conversation to schools, classes, clubs and individuals, and are full of excellent suggestions.

Mr. Robert Buchanan's last novel, "Anna Water," like all his latest books, breathes of the villainy of man and the sorrows of woman. It is not without dramatic strength, but it is in no sense an agreeable story.

St. Nicholas in his number for January has, if that be possible, outdone himself. The venerable saint's collection of prose, song and picture was never richer and brighter.

Schiller as an actor was a painful spectacle. A German newspaper in 1807 published this frank notice of a performance in which he gained no honor: "Schiller lived so entirely in the theatrical world that he conceived the desire to try his powers on the stage. It was in 1780 that some pupils of the Stuttgart Academy proposed to celebrate the birthday of their Duke by acting a play. The choice of the play, the disposal of the parts, and other arrangements were left to Schiller. He chose Goethe's 'Clavigo' and himself took the chief part. And how did he appear? How did he play? Without exaggeration, I may say, disgustingly. Parts which should have been touching and solemn he rendered strikingly, boisterously and noisily; temerity and passion he expressed by howls, snorts, and stampings—in short, his acting was altogether preposterous; now repulsive, now ridiculous. In the conversation where the poet says in parentheses, 'Clavigo moves in great confusion on his chair,' Schiller writhed on his chair in such wild contortions that the audience laughingly expected he would fall down. To the truth of this statement many persons can testify who to this day live at Stuttgart."

Mr. J. T. Townbridge has written for the March Harper a sketch of Will Carleton, author of "Farm Ballads." A portrait will accompany the sketch.

One word for Tennyson, two for Tupper: "If," says the latter in the *London Times*, "any foolish rule has hitherto existed that any writer, however excellent, must—as possibly Bohemian—he excluded from national recognition through the fountain of honor in the way of titular distinction, we may well rejoice that, as our noble Tennyson has now broken through the pale, there is hope for some of his literary brethren and sisters being thought worthy of public honors from our great and good Queen."

Pollack's romance of "Peter Wilkins," beloved of Lamb and Leigh Hunt, is to be reprinted in London from the first edition of 1751. The old plates will be reproduced.

Mr. A. J. Symonds's new book, "Shakespeare's Predecessors in the English Drama," is nearly ready for publication.

Mrs. J. Fields will contribute to the forthcoming *Harper* an attractive paper full of personal anecdotes of Mr. Emerson. Mrs. Fields is quoted as saying of Emerson that he could not easily forgive any one who made him laugh immoderately.

A cheap edition of Mr. Browning's poems is about to be brought out in England.

Mr. Gosse declares that it was not the critics who killed John Keats, but shallow-hearted Fanny Browne. Mr. Forman's new edition of Keats is enthusiastically praised in London.

Mr. Grant's novel "An Average Man" has not been received with much favor. A correspondent of *The Boston Transcript* says: "I think that the conversations in which Mr. Grant's young ladies and gentlemen engage are about as rapid and stupid as one can imagine. The silly nothings spoken behind fans and over ice will not bear translation into cold type. They are only interesting when bright and pointed; and if they are dull and witless they reveal characteristics so shallow and frivolous that we cannot become interested in them. We are told that Mrs. Fielding is a refined, charming woman. I should say, rather, that she is a sentimental milk-sop. 'Adorable, are they not?' she says, commenting on some lines of Swinburne, 'There is a wealth of deliciousness in Swinburne,' and her pupils delighted with their sense of *élan*, caught his own. Let us trust that they to *bl* what they were seeking, and that their 'sense of enjoyment' was heightened when the young man to whom these rapturous words were addressed replied, 'Exquisite.'

"The History of Democracy, considered as a Party Name, and as a Political Organization," is a curious study by Jonathan Norcross, author of several political books. It attempts to show the similarity between the Democratic parties of all ages and countries, with the special design of proving that "the word, used as a party name or title, has almost invariably proved to be, in practice, as far from the abstract or popular meaning of the word as the East is from the West." The work shows much study of the history of political parties and governments. It is published for the author by G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Mr. Courtoupe's "Addison," in the English Men of Letters series, is just coming from the press of the Harpers.

In "Rambles Overland" (Universalist Publishing House) Mr. Almon Gunnison presents a general description of a trip across the Continent. There is little that is new to say about the region he traversed, but his own enjoyment of the journey and his sense of humor have enabled him to give a certain freshness and vivacity to his record. Annoying incidents are neatly told—witness the story of the expedition which was virtually only by divers cans of Boston baked-beans, each traveller having forgotten to consult his companions as to the provisions to be carried, and beans having seemed to each convenient and satisfying.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

For Boys and Young Men—*Circulars of Best Schools*. By W. C. Gannett, 16mo, pp. 46, paper. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

*Bengaloonie. A Tragedy.* By George H. Calvert, 16mo, pp. 192, paper. (Boston & New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

*Dante and Stories with Jesus.* By Charles Frederick Hoffman, D.D., 16mo, pp. 804. (James Pott.)

*A Memorial of John Farmer, A. M.* By John Le Bouquet, 16mo, pp. 133. (Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co.)

*Silent Life.* By Karl M. Farlow, 16mo, pp. 221. (London: Oxford University Press.)

*The Legend of Zvezdochka.* By Jean Grob, 16mo, pp. 200, paper. (Frank & Wagstaff.)

*The Works of Orville Dewey, D.D.* With a Biographical Sketch, 8vo, pp. 804. (Boston: American Unitarian Association.)

*Won at West Point.* A Romance on the Hudson. By Fitch, 12mo, pp. 297. (Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.)

*The Millionnaire.* A Novel. (Harper's Franklin Square Library.)

*Worman's Modern Language Method.* By W. C. Worman, 111 and 118 William-st, N.Y.

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CONTENTS OF NO. 4, JANUARY, 1884.

NOW READY.

I. "MATTHEW ARNOLD." Engraved by O. Lacombe, from a drawing by F. Sandys. . . . . Frontispiece.

II. DARTMOOR AND THE ALKHAM.

Frederick Pollock.

Illustrations: by L. R. O'Brien. "D'Amboise."—Post Bridge, Dartmoor—Cottage on D'Amboise—from Pic Tor, Dartmoor—Bridge with Mile with Mr. Fox—Vixen Tor, Dartmoor—A Desolate Lane—Hall's Farm, Dartmoor.

III. THE PLANOPORTÉ AND ITS PRECURSORS.

A. J. Hopkins.

Illustrations: by W. R. O'Brien. "D'Amboise."—Frontispiece.

IV. THE MISSES LEEDS'S ENGLISH AND FRENCH BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

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